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# Morse Asks Senate Dodd Quiz

By George Lardner Jr.  
Washington Post Staff Writer

Sen. Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) broke the Senate's long silence over charges of misconduct against Sen. Thomas J. Dodd (D-Conn.) yesterday by demanding a full-dress public investigation.

"The storm brewed up over this matter leaves us no other course," Morse said in the first mention of the case on the Senate floor.

Columnists Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson have accused Dodd of performing chores for a registered foreign agent, of accepting favors from companies the Senator helped on Government contracts, and of depositing in his personal account thousands of dollars contributed to his election campaign.

Dodd has denied any improprieties.

Morse said he was deeply disturbed by published reports that the Senate Ethics Committee plans to close down its closed inquiry into the case "quickly and quietly."

"I don't see how they can avoid public hearings," Morse said. At the least, he said, "the record should be made public. It has become public business."

Morse avoided any direct mention of Dodd by name, saying he was speaking as "the Senator's" friend. But he said a quick once-over-lightly by the Ethics Committee would be unfair both "to the Senator and the Senate." It could only lead, he said, to Bobby Baker style charges of "whitewash."

"I am not alone in this body," Morse said of his proposal. "I may be alone on this floor but there is great

concern among us. Senator after Senator has told me he shares my view."

Sens. Stephen Young (D-Ohio) and Paul Fannin (R-Ariz.), the only members on the floor at the time, seconded Morse's remarks.

Like Morse, Young said he was upset by reports that the FBI and the Justice Department were concentrating on how the columnists got their information.

"The point is whether the charges stand up," Young said. "Any other inquiry is out of order at this time. The gravity of this situation cannot be overemphasized. The integrity and dignity of the United States Senate is at stake."

The Justice Department has acknowledged that it is investigating allegations that "thousands of documents have

been stolen from Dodd's office." It has also said it is trying to determine whether there is any basis to the allegations against Dodd.

The Ethics Committee and the FBI have been looking into the case since February—at Dodd's request. But the Committee has yet to call Dodd or any other witness.

Pearson and Anderson's columns have centered on charges that Dodd carried out assignments for a close friend, Julius Klein, a lobbyist and registered agent for West German interests.

Dodd remained silent about the columns until a House freshman, Joseph Resnick (D-N.Y.), voiced his concern in a House speech Feb. 24. That afternoon, Dodd announced he had "absolutely nothing to conceal" and disclosed he had offered to turn all his files over to both the FBI and the Ethics Committee.